

Conseil International du Sport Militaire

Fort Huachuca, Arizona

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CISM reaches its final hours at Fort Huachuca.

By Tanja Linton

Today was a good day to be German in this corner of southern Arizona.

The Chinese suffered their only loss at this tournament at the hands of Germany. The Germans won one set, then another. China rallied for the third set, but Germans shut them down in the fourth set for a major upset. The expectation of a Korea vs. China match is no more. Germany now plays Korea for the gold medal and China plays Qatar for bronze.

The Chinese women are a lock for gold and Canada has fourth place, so the United States and Netherlands duked it out for women's silver. The U.S. women beat the Dutch in three straight sets. The second place will be determined by points and the silver medalists will be announced tomorrow.

Here are last nights results:

<u>Men</u>

Canada def. United States 25-22, 17-25, 23-25, 27-29

Qatar def. Netherlands 25-23, 25-14, 25-17



Thom Williams

Germany slips by China as CISM Volleyball moves into the finals for the 2006 championships at Fort Huachuca.

Germany def. China 25-22, 25-21, 18-25, 30-28

Women

China def. Canada 25-3, 25-11, 25-6.

United States def. Netherlands 25-23, 25-20, 25-20.

Men's finals take place Saturday. India plays Netherlands at 9 a.m., Qatar faces off against China for the bronze medal at 11:30 a.m. and Korea battles with Germany for gold at 2 p.m.

Medal presentations and closing ceremonies take place directly after the Korea vs. Germany match.

Tomorrow's matches promise to showcase spectacular, world class volleyball. The public is encouraged to come out

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Story and photo by Thom Williams

Nine countries... hundreds of athletes and official delegates...ball people... gym floor sweeping crew...practice schedules-the list of tasks which need to be accomplished is almost endless.

One of the people who is helping to organize the controlled chaos at the 27th Conseil International du Sport Militaire or World Military Volleyball Championships is Leslie Woods, chief of Sports and Fitness.

Those who attended CISM probably didn't notice Woods moving around Barnes Field House speaking with tournament officials or coming up with solutions to hundreds of issues. There always seemed to be someone waiting to bend his ear.

He has been working to help organize

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Members of the U.S. men's team pose together with the Chinese women's team for a keepsake photo

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cheer on the international competitors. Admission to all matches is free.

Fort Huachuca, an Armed Force sports center of excellence, is committed to the CISM motto, "friendship through sport." Community support has made the athletes' experiences in southern Arizona extremely positive ones.

The All Army Boxing Championships take place at Fort Huachuca in January.

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the event for the past year. Woods, 53, is low-key when talking about his role in the CISM event.

"I'm just another person that sort of tries to coordinate everybody on Fort Huachuca to come together because this is not a one-man job,' Woods said. "All I am is a facilitator and a coordinator."

He went on to say that there really were not any special requests that the organizers didn't predict.

Woods said about the only glitch so far was that the CISM technical committee found that the gym floor was missing a few markings required for play under international volleyball standards.

"We had a crew from the Sport and Fitness Branch, Lee Schumacher and Mic Gue, staying to 10 or 11 at night to make sure the floor was ready to go," he said.

Woods added that he really gets a kick out of organizing international athletic events.

He then told the story of when he saw a couple of athletes from Korea and China stop and shake hands in the pedestrian crosswalk on Arizona Street in front of Barnes Field House.

"You see that over and over and it gives you a real appreciation of what CISM is all about," Woods said.

Woods' father was in the U.S. Army and he was born



Leslie Woods, chief of Sports and Fitness (left), speaks with Col. Jeff Macintire, deputy commander, clinical services, Raymond W. Bliss Army Health Center.

at Fort Monmouth, N.J. His father then received orders for an accompanied tour in France followed by an assignment at Fort Huachuca in 1958.

Woods played football and participated in track and field at Buena High School where he graduated in 1970.

Woods went to junior college in Idaho on a track scholarship and then transferred to Augustana College, Sioux Falls S.D where he received a bachelor's degree.

He returned to the Sierra Vista area in 1985 and began working at Barnes Field House as a parttime lifeguard and climbed the ladder to the top.

Woods is an athlete himself and he recently completed the Ironman Arizona Triathlon in Tempe, Ariz.

He credits his training for giving him the energy to spend long hours ensuring the volleyball championships run smoothly.

"For me, it does help. When I can't work out I get a little cranky," he added.

June 17 Competition Schedule



CISM AWARDS CEREMONY THIS AFTERNOON AT 4 P.M.